



16797  
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Eighth District Eastern Region Auxiliary Policy Directive AD-06.B

Subj: COASTIE THE SAFETY BOAT

Ref: (a) COMDTINST 16790.1G, Auxiliary Manual  
(b) COMDTINST M5100.47, Safety and Environmental Health Manual  
(c) Coastie The Safety Boat Handbook  
(d) Robotics, Inc. Owner's Manual

1. PURPOSE. This directive updates the Eighth Coast Guard District Eastern Region "Coastie, the Safety Boat" program.
2. DIRECTIVES AFFECTED. This directive supersedes both Auxiliary Policy Directive AD-06 and the Commodore's Eighth Coast Guard District Eastern Region "Coastie, the Safety Boat" Instruction dated 1 DEC 08.
3. DISCUSSION. "Coastie, the Safety Boat" (hereafter referred to as Coastie) is a robotic tool used to teach boating safety fundamentals to children. Members of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary are the prime operators of Coast Guard-owned, Auxiliary-owned and outside Agency-owned units. Certain ground rules regarding Coastie will protect owners and operators and ensure that the units are used in a manner consistent with the enhancement of public safety and the positive image of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary.
4. PROGRAM MANAGEMENT. The use of Coastie will be scheduled within the Division. For Divisions not possessing a Coastie, the Region's Coastie Program Manager will assist in coordinating Coastie scheduling. Upon completion of the event, operators will provide the Program Manager (ADSO-PA) with feedback to report mission effectiveness, event attendance, and descriptions of any problems or issues that arose.
5. ASSIGNMENT TO DUTY. Before performing any Coastie mission, operators should ensure that and proper assignment to duty has been made. Paragraph 5.J of reference (a) explains how to assign Auxiliarists to duty. Proper assignment to duty and adherence to policy will protect the Auxiliarist in case of liability concerns involving the use of Coastie.
6. UNIFORMS. Any Coastie program shall be considered either a Public Appearance or a Public Education event. Therefore, uniforms shall be those as prescribed for those events in Chapter 10 or reference (a).

7. MOVEMENT OF COASTIE.

- (1) Auxiliarists assigned to duty must follow the motor vehicle safety policy and guidance in Chapter 10 of reference (b).
- (2) Coastie should be moved either in a vehicle or trailer that has proper padding, suspension, and tie downs.
- (3) An operator who uses a trailer to transport Coastie must have the trailer inspected by a second person to ensure Coastie is properly tied down before movement begins.
- (4) Any vehicle used to tow the Coast Guard-owned Coastie, must be offered and accepted for use by the Director of Auxiliary (DIRAUX) using form ANSC-7065. Please note that the offer for use is valid for one year from the date of acceptance.
- (5) Vehicles and trailers used to move any Coastie must ensure that the vehicle or trailer has private or organizational insurance that covers the contents of the vehicle or trailer.

8. OPERATION OF COASTIE.

- (1) Before operating Coastie, an Auxiliarist must have a qualification certificate issued by the DIRAUX.
- (2) Two qualified Auxiliarists are required to operate Coastie at all times. Coastie must be in a secure neutral position during operator breaks. If two Qualified Auxiliary Operators are not available, the event must be cancelled or rescheduled when a full crew is available. A single Auxiliarist may transport Coastie without being operator-qualified. However, any Auxiliarist who transports or operates Coastie must be assigned to duty.
- (3) As per reference (c), operators should remain aware of safety concerns regarding the use of Coastie's horn, spotlight and water squirter system. Modifications to these systems (e.g. mechanically reducing the volume of the horn) must not circumvent any warranty or safety devices as per reference (d). In addition to safety concerns, operators must remain aware of the impact of their presentation on other vendors or the public in adjacent areas who are not participating in the Coastie presentation.
- (4) The Program Manager will track Coastie mission and operator effectiveness via feedback from operators and handlers in order to ensure the program's continued success.

9. TRAINING AND QUALIFICATION.

- (1) Qualified Auxiliarists are currently authorized to train other Auxiliarists in the use of Coastie. Operators should exercise as much care in qualifying other operators as they would in qualifying instructors and vessel examiners.
- (2) Appendix 1 is the training syllabus outline for certifying Auxiliarists as Coastie operators is within the Region. Areas of emphasis include assembly, controls, basic

operation, transportation, preventive maintenance, hands-on practice and safety. The qualification course consists of approximately four (4) hours of classroom instruction plus at least 30 minutes of hands-on training operating Coastie. During the hands-on training, there will be a qualified Coastie operator supervising each student.

(3) A list of members who complete each qualification class will be sent to the Program Manager who will then forward the list to DIRAUX for issuance of training certificates.

(4) In order to maintain qualification, a Coastie operator must operate Coastie at one (1) event each year or attend a workshop. The workshop should include: Coastie assembly, operation, maintenance, repair, transportation and safety concerns.

10. OWNERSHIP AND LIABILITY.

(1) Claims and liability in the case of loss or damage to Coast Guard-owned Coasties, personal injury to operators, and third party suits will be handled in accordance with reference (a) and COMDTINST M5890 (series), Coast Guard Claims and Litigation Manual.

(2) Entities other than the Coast Guard may own a Coastie. Auxiliarists who operate Coasties not owned by the Coast Guard should ensure that liability and property insurance is in effect before use. Proof of insurance may be requested by the DIRAUX.

(3) Auxiliarists who transfer a Coastie to anyone outside Eighth Coast Guard District Eastern Region must notify the Coastie Coordinator, obtain written permission from the DIRAUX, and execute a DD Form-1149 before releasing custody of the device.

11. ACTION. All elected and appointed Auxiliary leaders and Coastie operators shall know the contents of this directive and ensure compliance by all Auxiliarists within Eighth District Eastern Region. Failure to comply with this guidance shall be investigated and addressed by the chain of leadership and management in accordance with reference (a).

12. RESPONSIBILITY. DIRAUX directives will be maintained in the DIRAUX office. Recommendations for changes should be submitted to DIRAUX office via the chain of leadership and management.

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Enclosure: Coastie Training Syllabus Outline

## Coastie Training Syllabus Outline

### OVERVIEW

#### Objective of this training

- Provide minimum knowledge about robot and systems
- Discuss interactions with public
- Illuminate safety considerations
- Present transport procedures

#### What are we going to do?

- Spend about 30-45 minutes on the robot and systems
- Spend about 20 minutes on public interactions
- Spend about 50 minutes (or more) operating Coastie for familiarity

### COASTIE

#### Specifications

- 150 pounds
- 4 ½' long
- 3' wide

#### Transport and attach to a dolly

Dolly and presentation accessories transported/stored in trailer

#### Systems

- Radio command and control system
- Voice System
- Sound system
  - CD
  - Tape deck
- Siren
- Battery systems
- Drive motors
- Eyes and Eyelids
- Water Squirter
- Voice Modifier
- Emergency stop switch

### COASTIE SYSTEMS IN DETAIL

#### Radio command and control

- VHF/AM pulse-width control system (75 Mhz)
- Fully proportional control of basic motions and eye motion by joysticks

## COASTIE SYSTEMS IN DETAIL (continued)

Switch actions for various discrete functions

Wink/blink/sleep eyes

Siren

Spot light

Bilge/horn operation

Cassette off/on

Running lights off/on

Voice system

Operator to Coastie

VHF/FM system (170.245Mhz)

Modifier

Coastie to Operator

VHF/FM system (185.150 Mhz)

Coastie mic location in the bow

CD player – operation

Cassette player – operation

Siren – internal switch location and position

Battery systems

Robot battery & charger

Command/control battery & charger

Coastie to operator receiver battery

Operator to Coastie transmitter battery

Drive motor system

Eyelids and Eyes Left and Right

Eyelid wink, blink and sleep

Eyelid lateral movement

Water squirter

Fill

Operation

Voice modifier

Emergency stop – operation

## STARTING

Record keeping

Removal from transport dolly

Removal and installation of top

Installation of flags/signs

Operator preparation

Turn on

Sequence – transmitter first then Coastie

Check out – all functions

## STOPPING

- Turn off sequence – Coastie first, then transmitter
- Operator unrigging
- Removal of flags/signs
- Securing to transport dolly
- Record keeping

## MAINTENANCE

- Battery charging/changing
- Water draining – hint- change to water bottle and then command “squirt”
- Cleaning